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Release, letting go the bowstring in shooting. Professor E. S. Morse characterizes the various releases as follows:

1. Primary release, thumb and first joint of forefinger pinching the arrow nock.
2. Secondary, thumb and second joint of forefinger, middle finger also on string.
3. Tertiary, thumb and three fingers on the string.
4. Mediterranean, fore and middle finger, thumb not used.
5. Mongolian, thumb on string, with or without thumb-ring.

Riband, a term applied to the stripes painted on arrow-shafts, generally around the shaftment. These ribands have been called clan-marks, owner-marks, game tallies, etc.

Sefin (see thumb-ring).

Self-bow (simple), made of a single piece of wood or other material.

Shaft, anciently an arrow, but strictly the portion behind the head, and in a foreshafted arrow the lighter portion behind the foreshaft.

Shaft-grooves, furrow cuts along an arrow-shaft from the head backward; they have been called blood-grooves and lightning-grooves, but these names are objectionable as involving theories.

Shaftment, the part of an arrow on which the feathering is laid.

Shank, the part of an arrow-head corresponding to the tang of the sword-blade.

Short-arrows, those which fall short of the mark.

Sides, of an arrow-head, the sharpened portions between the apex and the base, also called the edges.

Sinew-backed bow, one whose elasticity is increased by the use of sinew along the back, either in a cable of twine, as among the Eskimos, or laid on solid by means of glue, as with many tribes in Western United States.

Sleight, the facility with which an archer releases his bowstring.

Stele (stale, shaft), the wooden part of an arrow, an arrow without feather or head.

Target, a disk of straw covered with canvas, on which are painted concentric rings, used in archery as a mark in lieu of the ancient butt.

Thumb-ring, a ring worn on the thumb in archery by those peoples that use the Mongolian release; called sefin by the Persians.

Tip, a term applied to the sharp apex of an arrow-head.

Trajectory, the curve which an arrow describes in space, may be flat, high, &c.

Weight, of a bow, the number of pounds required to draw a bow until the arrow may stand between the string and the belly, ascertained by suspending the bow at its grip and drawing with a spring scale.

Whipping (seizing, serving), wrapping any part of a bow or arrow with cord or sinew regularly laid on.

Wide-arrows, those shot to the right or the left of the mark.

MICROSCOPY.[1]

A Staining Dish.—A convenient form of staining dish has hitherto been a desideratum; at my request the Educational Supply Co., at 6 Hamilton place, Boston, has undertaken to supply this desideratum. The new dish, shown of the natural size in the cut, is made of clear glass with polished surfaces; it is sufficiently deep to hold a considerable quantity of fluid, while the curves inside are such that although large sections lie nearly flat, yet when very little fluid is used it gathers into the center. The dishes, owing to their vertical sides, are readily stacked, while the bevel is wide enough for a label, which can be easily seen both when the dishes are stacked and as they set upon the table singly. They are sold at $2.50 per dozen.—*Charles S. Minot.*

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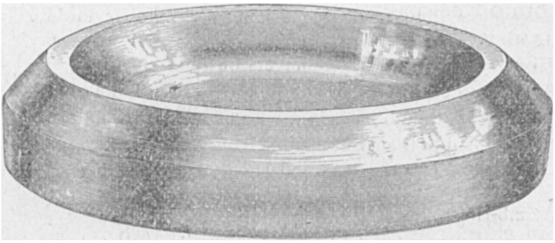
[1] Edited by Dr. C. O. Whitman, Mus. Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.



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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.[1]

— The new museum building of Columbia College, New York, devotes its first floor to chemistry, the second to mineralogy and metallurgy, the third to archæology and geological conference, the fourth to engineering and museums, the fifth to geology and palæontology. The building runs from 49th to 50th street, forty feet wide, with lecture-rooms adjoining each museum. The library has been arranged and catalogued, and is lighted by electricity. The astronomical observatory over the library, in charge of Professor J. K. Rees, has been equipped with telegraphic apparatus and a thirteen-inch equatorial telescope, costing $20,000, given by Louis M. Rutherford, which is used for lunar researches. The herbarium has extensive rooms, and is one of the largest and most valuable in the country. The geological museum, under Dr. J. S. Newberry, has been rearranged and provided with new cases, and is now displayed at the best advantage. The table cases are ten by four feet in size, and completely filled with mineral ores and products, making the most varied collection of the kind extant. Fifteen wall cases are filled with minerals and building stones. The palæontological collection is arranged in twelve table and sixteen wall cases to the best advantage for instruction. Here also cases containing numerous specimens of rocks and the minerals which make rock, as auxiliary to the study of lithology. There is a large collection of animals illustrative of the different groups bearing on the study of palæontology. Among the recent additions are specimens of fossil Saurians from the Jurassic rocks of Würtemberg, representing the Ichthyosaurians and Teleosaurians; a fine speeimen of the cave-bear, etc.

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[1] Edited by WM. HOSEA BALLOU, 265 Broadway, New York.